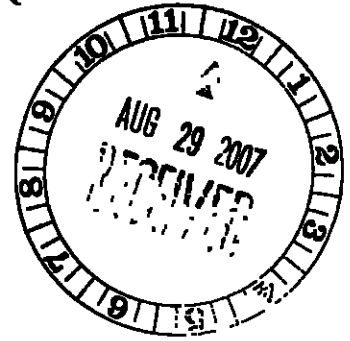


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August 23, 2007

BY ELECTRONIC FILING AND FIRST CLASS MAIL.

Mr Vernon A Williams
Secretary, Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Office of Proceedings
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Re Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company
Abandonment Exemption, Docket No AB-996X

Dear Mr Williams

By order dated May 30, 2007, the Board tolled the time period for Reading Anthracite Company ("RAC") to file an offer of financial assistance in the above-captioned matter until August 28, 2007. RAC and Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company ("RBMN") have continued to confer and have agreed to a further tolling of such time period until November 26, 2007, in order to conclude negotiations that would permit the line to remain open.

Since our last request, RAC has continued to assess commercial options for the Minersville Branch, and the parties have continued to communicate in an effort to keep the line open. We believe that the parties will be able to resolve this issue within 90 days and therefore respectfully request the Board to issue an Order effecting the agreement of the parties.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. The undersigned is authorized to state that RBMN joins in this request.

Very truly yours,

Michael Joseph
Andrew W Dyer, Jr
Counsel for Reading Anthracite Company

cc Eric M Hocky, Esquire